

MESSAGE FOR  
TOTAL COPIES: 20
 IG: RICHARD HELMS  
 IT: DIRECTOR  
 T: 6464  
 TE: 13 SEPT. 1967

☐ FILE RID  
☐ INDEX  
☐ NO INDEX  
☐ FILE IN CS FILE NO.

SECRET

ROUTING			
1		5	
2		6	
3		7	
4		8	

DISSEM BY 15 PER #

☐ DESTROY ☐ RETURN TO BRANCH

COM: DIRECTOR

INF:

INFO: VR, FILE ☐ RID COPY

D/DCI, EX/DIR, DDP, ADDP, CS/RF,

CSDO, C/FE8, C/SAVA, D/PPB, OLC

(ELITE)  
(REFERENCE NUMBER)

(PICA)

SECRET

SEP 13 15 14 'Z

CITE DIRECTOR

-35095-

TO IMMEDIATE SAIGON

INFO BANGKOK VIENTIANE

RYBAT

(\*Reported ACOS conversation with Sen. Symington.)

RE BANGKOK 1703 (IN-50816) \*

FOR SENATOR SYMINGTON FROM MR. HELMS

"1. REGRET YOUR CONCERN OVER JOHN HART'S ABSENCE DURING YOUR VISIT TO SAIGON. HE HAD A MOST IMPORTANT OPERATIONAL CONTACT TO MAKE IN LONDON THIS WEEK, AN ARRANGEMENT MADE WELL BEFORE WE KNEW YOU WERE VISITING SAIGON. IN ANY EVENT, AM SURE YOU WILL FIND LOU LAPHAM HIGHLY QUALIFIED TO HANDLE WITH YOU WHATEVER MATTERS YOU CARE TO DISCUSS. HE HAS BEEN IN VIETNAM FOR NEARLY A YEAR, HAS HAD SENIOR AGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES BEFORE THAT, AND HAS BEEN DEEPLY INVOLVED AND DIRECTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE BULK OF OUR PROGRAM THERE IN THE PROVINCIAL CADRE AND INTELLIGENCE FIELDS. SHOULD THERE BE SOME RESIDUAL MATTERS FOLLOWING YOUR VISIT TO SAIGON, WE WOULD BE GLAD TO HOLD JOHN HART HERE IN WASHINGTON UNTIL YOU RETURN.

"2. WITH RESPECT TO YOUR REQUEST FOR A FULL RUNDOWN ON OUR PERSONNEL COMMITMENTS TO VIETNAM, I AM SURE THAT SAIGON STATION WILL GIVE YOU A FULL BRIEF OF TODAY'S SITUATION. THEY MAY NOT BE AS WELL EQUIPPED TO GIVE YOU THE TREND OVER THE YEARS, BUT I AM ARRANGING THAT A FULL BRIEFING ON OUR PERSONNEL

COORDINATING OFFICERS

RELEASING OFFICER

SECRET

GROUP 1  
Excluded from automatic  
downgrading and  
declassificationAUTHENTICATING  
OFFICER

COPY NO.

REPRODUCTION BY OTHER THAN THE ISSUING OFFICE IS PROHIBITED.

RS

MESSAGE FORM  
TOTAL COPIES:

SECRET

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

ROUTING

1		5	
2		6	
3		7	
4		8	

IG :  
IT :  
T :  
TE :  
☐ FILE RID  
☐ INDEX  
☐ NO INDEX  
☐ FILE IN CS FILE NO.

DISSEM BY \_\_\_\_\_ PER \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

FROM: DIRECTOR

PAGE TWO (2)

☐ DESTROY ☐ RETURN TO \_\_\_\_\_ BRANCH

INFO: VR , FILE ☐ RID COPY

(CLASSIFICATION)

SECRET

(DATE AND TIME FILED)

(ELITE)  
(REFERENCE NUMBER)

(PICA)

CITE DIRECTOR

35095

TO SAIGON INFO [BANGKOK VIENTIANE]

STRENGTHS IN VIETNAM BETWEEN 1959 - 1967, WITH THE PROGRAMS TO WHICH THEY WERE COMMITTED, BE PREPARED FOR PRESENTATION TO YOU ON YOUR RETURN HERE. I HOPE THIS WILL WORK OUT SATISFACTORILY.

"3. WITH RESPECT TO GARRISON'S ALLEGATIONS, WE ARE GATHERING TOGETHER ALL POSSIBLE FACTS AND WILL CERTAINLY BE PREPARED TO GIVE THE FULL AND STRAIGHT STORY AS NEEDED. THANK YOU FOR THE SUGGESTION. IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF MR. GARRISON WERE SOMEWHAT MORE SPECIFIC IN HIS ALLEGATIONS."

(END OF MESSAGE)

RICHARD HELMS, DCI  
RELEASING OFFICER

COORDINATING OFFICERS

SECRET

THOMAS H. KARAMESSINES  
AUTHENTICATING OFFICER

GROUP 1  
Excluded from automatic  
downgrading and  
declassification

REPRODUCED BY OTHER THAN THE ISSUING OFFICE IS PROHIBITED.

COPY NO.